

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:03,000

On this episode of Expedition X...

2

00:00:03,000 --> 00:00:05,500

I'm just trying to see the road!

3

00:00:05,500 --> 00:00:08,500

My team heads to the Yucatan Peninsula

4

00:00:08,500 --> 00:00:12,500

to investigate fresh reports of paranormal activity.

5

00:00:12,500 --> 00:00:14,000

Oh, my gosh. Look at this.

6

00:00:14,000 --> 00:00:16,000

Strange voices and shadows...

7

00:00:18,000 --> 00:00:21,000

and bizarre swarms of animals and insects.

8

00:00:21,000 --> 00:00:22,000

Ants catch you too?

9

00:00:22,000 --> 00:00:23,500

Yeah, oh, f\*\*\*, yeah.

10

00:00:23,500 --> 00:00:24,500

They're falling over.

11

00:00:24,500 --> 00:00:27,000

Inside, Mexico's cenotes...

12

00:00:28,000 --> 00:00:29,000

Incredible.

13

00:00:29,000 --> 00:00:32,000

The legendary portals to the Maya underworld.

14

00:00:32,000 --> 00:00:35,000

I mean, this looks like something from Indiana Jones.

15

00:00:35,000 --> 00:00:38,000

And when Jess and Phil uncover a dark secret

16

00:00:38,000 --> 00:00:41,000

in the decaying ruins of a nearby plantation...

17

00:00:41,000 --> 00:00:43,500

These slaves probably used this very time.

18

00:00:43,500 --> 00:00:46,000

Things take a strange turn.

19

00:00:46,000 --> 00:00:48,000

Somebody just walked by here.

20

00:00:48,000 --> 00:00:49,500

Brian, I thought it was you again.

21

00:00:49,500 --> 00:00:51,500

The brain will put patterns where it wants to put patterns.

22

00:00:51,500 --> 00:00:53,000

Why would I pattern Brian?

23

00:00:53,000 --> 00:00:57,000

Leading to one of their most intense investigations ever.

24

00:00:58,000 --> 00:00:59,000

Oh, f\*\*\*, what?

25

00:00:59,000 --> 00:01:00,000

F\*\*\*, jeez, Jess.

26

00:01:00,000 --> 00:01:01,000

There's something in the well!

27

00:01:07,000 --> 00:01:10,000

Mexico's Haunted Cenotes.

28

00:01:11,000 --> 00:01:13,000

My name is Josh Gates.

29

00:01:13,000 --> 00:01:16,000

In my travels, I've experienced strange things

30

00:01:16,000 --> 00:01:20,000

that defy logic and made me question everything.

31

00:01:20,000 --> 00:01:21,500

Oh, my God.

32

00:01:21,500 --> 00:01:24,000

Now, I've put together a team to investigate

33

00:01:24,000 --> 00:01:27,000

the stranger side of the unknown.

34

00:01:27,000 --> 00:01:28,000

Let's go!

35

00:01:29,000 --> 00:01:33,000

Phil Torres is a scientist who hunts for rational explanations.

36

00:01:33,000 --> 00:01:36,000

This is the calling for actually found cenotes.

37

00:01:36,000 --> 00:01:41,000

Jessica Chobot's paranormal research has made her a true believer.

38

00:01:41,000 --> 00:01:43,000

If you're here with us, knock again.

39

00:01:43,000 --> 00:01:46,000

Together, we're searching for answers...

40

00:01:46,000 --> 00:01:47,000

What is happening here, Jess?

41

00:01:47,000 --> 00:01:51,000

...to the world's most extraordinary mysteries.

42

00:01:51,000 --> 00:01:54,000

This is Expedition X.

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00:01:57,000 --> 00:01:58,000

All right, contestants.

44

00:01:58,000 --> 00:01:59,000

Quiz time.

45

00:01:59,000 --> 00:02:02,000

What is 66 million years old,

46

00:02:02,000 --> 00:02:04,000

more than six miles wide,

47

00:02:04,000 --> 00:02:07,000

and travels 150 times faster than a jet?

48

00:02:07,000 --> 00:02:08,000

Pizz.

49

00:02:08,000 --> 00:02:09,000

Phil Torres.

50

00:02:09,000 --> 00:02:10,000

What is an asteroid?

51

00:02:10,000 --> 00:02:12,000

That is correct and bonus points for answering

52

00:02:12,000 --> 00:02:13,000

in the form of a question.

53

00:02:13,000 --> 00:02:16,000

Specifically today, we are talking about the asteroid

54

00:02:16,000 --> 00:02:20,000

that wiped out three quarters of all plants and animal life on Earth,

55

00:02:20,000 --> 00:02:21,000

including the dinosaurs.

56

00:02:21,000 --> 00:02:23,000

But as devastating as that event was,

57

00:02:23,000 --> 00:02:26,000

it also created the foundation for something remarkable.

58

00:02:26,000 --> 00:02:27,000

Mexico's...

59

00:02:27,000 --> 00:02:28,000

Cenotes.

60

00:02:28,000 --> 00:02:29,000

Cenotes.

61

00:02:29,000 --> 00:02:30,000

Yes.

62

00:02:30,000 --> 00:02:32,000

That wasn't in the form of a question, though, so...

63

00:02:32,000 --> 00:02:34,000

It's a point deduction there, Phil.

64

00:02:34,000 --> 00:02:36,000

I've always wanted to go see these caverns.

65

00:02:36,000 --> 00:02:38,000

I mean, the fact that there are these legendary portals

66

00:02:38,000 --> 00:02:40,000

to the Maya underworld,

67

00:02:40,000 --> 00:02:43,000

where they would make offerings and human sacrifices.

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00:02:43,000 --> 00:02:44,000

I am intrigued.

69

00:02:44,000 --> 00:02:46,000

As you should be, they are geologic wonders,

70

00:02:46,000 --> 00:02:49,000

and they do have this kind of bloody history in some cases.

71

00:02:49,000 --> 00:02:53,000

They are truly unique, and some say truly haunted.

72

00:02:57,000 --> 00:02:58,000

Earth.

73

00:02:58,000 --> 00:03:01,000

66 million years ago.

74

00:03:03,000 --> 00:03:07,000

The asteroid that slams into what is now Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula

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00:03:07,000 --> 00:03:12,000

leaves behind a crater 12 miles deep and 93 miles across.

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00:03:12,000 --> 00:03:15,000

The impact produces geological conditions

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00:03:15,000 --> 00:03:17,000

that will eventually scar the landscape

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00:03:17,000 --> 00:03:20,000

with thousands of deep limestone sinkholes

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00:03:20,000 --> 00:03:22,000

that fill with water.

80

00:03:23,000 --> 00:03:26,000

Fast forward to 2000 BCE,

81

00:03:26,000 --> 00:03:28,000

and the rise of the Maya civilization.

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00:03:28,000 --> 00:03:32,000

They build their settlements around these flooded caverns,

83

00:03:32,000 --> 00:03:33,000

or cenotes,

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00:03:33,000 --> 00:03:36,000

that provide fresh water for drinking and growing crops.

85

00:03:36,000 --> 00:03:39,000

But there's also a supernatural connection.

86

00:03:41,000 --> 00:03:44,000

The Maya believe the cenotes are sacred portals to the underworld.

87

00:03:45,000 --> 00:03:47,000

To gain favor with their gods,

88

00:03:47,000 --> 00:03:50,000

they cast precious offerings into the caverns.

89

00:03:50,000 --> 00:03:53,000

Things like jade, gold, and ceramics.

90

00:03:53,000 --> 00:03:56,000

And when the Maya really need their gods to come through for them,

91

00:03:56,000 --> 00:03:58,000

let there be blood.

92

00:03:59,000 --> 00:04:02,000

Of the animal and human variety.

93

00:04:03,000 --> 00:04:04,000

Speaking of blood,

94

00:04:04,000 --> 00:04:09,000

the Spanish spill plenty during their conquest of the region in the 1500s.

95

00:04:09,000 --> 00:04:11,000

The Maya, already in decline,

96

00:04:11,000 --> 00:04:14,000

are relegated to the fringes of society.

97

00:04:15,000 --> 00:04:17,000

For the Maya living in the Yucatan today,

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00:04:17,000 --> 00:04:21,000

the cenotes and the artifacts they hide are still sacred.

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00:04:21,000 --> 00:04:24,000

But looting in the area has become a major problem.

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00:04:24,000 --> 00:04:28,000

It's estimated that the illegal smuggling of ancient Maya artifacts

101

00:04:28,000 --> 00:04:31,000

generates revenues in the millions of dollars.

102

00:04:31,000 --> 00:04:34,000

And some believe this increase in criminal activity

103

00:04:34,000 --> 00:04:37,000

is somehow disrupting the Maya spirit world,

104

00:04:37,000 --> 00:04:41,000

triggering an escalation in paranormal activity.

105

00:04:42,000 --> 00:04:44,000

In the northern part of the peninsula

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00:04:44,000 --> 00:04:48,000

stand the crumbling ruins of a former farming plantation, or Hacienda,

107

00:04:48,000 --> 00:04:52,000

surrounded by several cenotes that are believed to be haunted.

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00:04:54,000 --> 00:04:58,000

Visitors to this swath of jungle report strange shadows and lights,

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00:04:58,000 --> 00:05:04,000

apparitions, and even aggressive animal behavior in and around the cenotes.

110

00:05:04,000 --> 00:05:08,000

And the spike in activity is terrifying the locals.

111

00:05:10,000 --> 00:05:13,000

So what could be causing these bizarre reports?

112

00:05:13,000 --> 00:05:17,000

And why are they happening at these specific cenotes?

113

00:05:24,000 --> 00:05:25,000

Alright, who's ready to dive in?

114

00:05:25,000 --> 00:05:28,000

Listen, you had me at Giant Asteroid Impact.

115

00:05:28,000 --> 00:05:30,000

I mean, for me this case has it all.

116

00:05:30,000 --> 00:05:33,000

Ghosts, spirits, ritual sacrifices.

117

00:05:33,000 --> 00:05:36,000

Josh, you've actually explored some of these cenotes before.

118

00:05:36,000 --> 00:05:38,000

I have. I've dived in many cenotes.

119

00:05:38,000 --> 00:05:40,000

I've even seen human remains.

120

00:05:40,000 --> 00:05:42,000

It really is another world down there.

121

00:05:42,000 --> 00:05:44,000

They can be really creepy places.

122

00:05:44,000 --> 00:05:48,000

Now, I've not been to these cenotes where these paranormal reports are coming from.

123

00:05:48,000 --> 00:05:50,000

Jess, you buy into this? What do you make of this?

124

00:05:50,000 --> 00:05:55,000

Seems to me that looting sacred artifacts is a great way to make spirits angry.

125

00:05:55,000 --> 00:05:56,000

Bill?

126

00:05:56,000 --> 00:05:57,000

I don't know about angry spirits,

127

00:05:57,000 --> 00:05:59,000

but the Yucatan is home to a lot of unique wildlife.

128

00:05:59,000 --> 00:06:02,000

There are monkeys there, there's big cats like jaguars,

129

00:06:02,000 --> 00:06:06,000

any of which could be behind these strange noises and shadows that people are reporting.

130

00:06:06,000 --> 00:06:09,000

And also, you don't want to make them angry either.

131

00:06:09,000 --> 00:06:12,000

So, I want you to get yourselves down to Mexico.

132

00:06:12,000 --> 00:06:13,000

Go meet these locals.

133

00:06:13,000 --> 00:06:15,000

Find out what it is that they're seeing,

134

00:06:15,000 --> 00:06:19,000

and maybe more importantly why they think this supposed paranormal activity

135

00:06:19,000 --> 00:06:21,000

is happening around these cenotes.

136

00:06:21,000 --> 00:06:24,000

Jess, see if you can make the case for stirred-up spirits.

137

00:06:24,000 --> 00:06:29,000

And Phil, if there is some natural explanation, like you say, what is it?

138

00:06:29,000 --> 00:06:30,000

Okay, we're on it.

139

00:06:30,000 --> 00:06:31,000

Sounds good.

140

00:06:31,000 --> 00:06:33,000

All right, adios.

141

00:06:34,000 --> 00:06:39,000

I'm sending my team nearly 3,200 miles to Yucatan's capital city of Merida.

142

00:06:45,000 --> 00:06:51,000

Then, they'll need to source a set of off-road wheels to transport them to the cenotes in the jungle.

143

00:06:53,000 --> 00:06:54,000

You know how to drive these things?

144

00:06:54,000 --> 00:06:55,000

I'm going to figure it out.

145

00:06:55,000 --> 00:06:56,000

All right.

146

00:06:57,000 --> 00:06:58,000

All right, ready?

147

00:07:02,000 --> 00:07:03,000

Okay.

148

00:07:05,000 --> 00:07:06,000

Hard works.

149

00:07:09,000 --> 00:07:14,000

Though it's been roughly 500 years since the Spanish arrived here to reshape the region,

150

00:07:14,000 --> 00:07:17,000

Maya influence is everywhere you look.

151

00:07:17,000 --> 00:07:21,000

Today, some 800,000 people in Mexico still speak Mayan.

152

00:07:21,000 --> 00:07:27,000

And another thing that hasn't changed since the fall of the empire is the region's unpredictable weather.

153

00:07:27,000 --> 00:07:32,000

It feels like we're literally out running a storm right now.

154

00:07:36,000 --> 00:07:39,000

I'd like to say I think we're out running the rain, but I don't think we are.

155

00:07:41,000 --> 00:07:43,000

I'm just trying to see the road!

156

00:07:43,000 --> 00:07:45,000

I get so much rain in my face!

157

00:07:45,000 --> 00:07:46,000

Oh my gosh.

158

00:07:49,000 --> 00:07:55,000

Rain or shine, our investigation is taking us southeast to a 20-square-mile area riddled with cenotes,

159

00:07:55,000 --> 00:08:01,000

many of which are mapped and who knows how many more that could still be undiscovered in the dense forest.

160

00:08:02,000 --> 00:08:05,000

This is where the paranormal reports are coming from.

161

00:08:05,000 --> 00:08:10,000

And a half mile off the dirt road, we're connecting with the most recent of the many witnesses.

162

00:08:10,000 --> 00:08:11,000

Is that him right there?

163

00:08:11,000 --> 00:08:12,000

Yeah.

164

00:08:12,000 --> 00:08:18,000

Josh has arranged for us to meet Luis Vazquez, a civil engineer and the manager of the property.

165

00:08:26,000 --> 00:08:27,000

Yes, it's better.

166

00:08:27,000 --> 00:08:28,000

Yes, yes.

167

00:08:34,000 --> 00:08:36,000

Well, thank you for having us here.

168

00:08:36,000 --> 00:08:39,000

I understand you've had a lot of strange experiences.

169

00:08:39,000 --> 00:08:42,000

So what are some of these experiences that you have had?

170

00:08:44,000 --> 00:08:47,000

I have seen and heard a lot of things I can't explain.

171

00:08:47,000 --> 00:08:54,000

I've seen strange lights moving inside and outside the cenotes, especially at the ceremonial cenote called Quichne.

172

00:08:54,000 --> 00:08:56,000

But it isn't just me.

173

00:08:56,000 --> 00:09:00,000

Many people claim to see lights there at dusk and at night.

174

00:09:01,000 --> 00:09:04,000

Do they stay and hover or do they disappear?

175

00:09:05,000 --> 00:09:06,000

Oh, disappear.

176

00:09:08,000 --> 00:09:11,000

Also, I've had rocks thrown at me on a trail near the cenotes.

177

00:09:11,000 --> 00:09:17,000

And when I was out inspecting one of the sinkholes where it's not safe for people to go, I heard my name called...

178

00:09:19,000 --> 00:09:20,000

But I was alone.

179

00:09:21,000 --> 00:09:28,000

Not too far from there, one of the workers has seen strange moving shadows creeping up on him, but no one was there.

180

00:09:29,000 --> 00:09:39,000

Luis tells us that, according to Maya legend, the jungles and cenotes are guarded by spirits that can take the form of things like trees, some animals like bats and even insects.

181

00:09:41,000 --> 00:09:46,000

Traditionally, the Maya don't believe in ghosts as spirits of their deceased ancestors.

182

00:09:47,000 --> 00:09:54,000

What they do believe is that spirits from nature and the underworld can take physical form to protect the people and their land.

183

00:09:55,000 --> 00:10:00,000

And if you don't pay a cenote the proper respect, those spirits can go on the offensive.

184

00:10:02,000 --> 00:10:05,000

Have you had any issues with looting or trespassing on the property?

185

00:10:06,000 --> 00:10:10,000

Yes, people have taken things that do not belong to them from the cenotes.

186

00:10:10,000 --> 00:10:13,000

And recently, I went to one of the flooded cenotes.

187

00:10:13,000 --> 00:10:20,000

There were some people swimming who did not have permission to be there. Suddenly, out of nowhere, snakes started to appear.

188

00:10:22,000 --> 00:10:25,000

They were everywhere, on the water, on the walls.

189

00:10:26,000 --> 00:10:28,000

There were more than 30 snakes.

190

00:10:29,000 --> 00:10:30,000

Oh my God.

191

00:10:31,000 --> 00:10:35,000

For the ancient Maya, snakes held profound spiritual significance.

192

00:10:35,000 --> 00:10:44,000

During sacrifice and blood-letting rituals, Maya priests would often have visions where they communicate with a god in the form of a giant serpent.

193

00:10:45,000 --> 00:10:49,000

Snakes are also considered to be one of the spirit guardians of the cenotes.

194

00:10:51,000 --> 00:10:54,000

There are things you won't believe, things I can't explain.

195

00:10:55,000 --> 00:10:56,000

The snake spirits.

196

00:10:56,000 --> 00:10:57,000

Not happy.

197

00:10:57,000 --> 00:10:58,000

Not happy.

198

00:10:59,000 --> 00:11:08,000

Luis shows us how to get to three cenotes where unusual activity has been reported, including Cenote Quichne, where he and others have witnessed the mysterious lights.

199

00:11:08,000 --> 00:11:11,000

We plan to start our investigation there.

200

00:11:11,000 --> 00:11:26,000

But before we're permitted to investigate spirit activity in the sacred caverns, Luis says we must first take part in a protection ritual, not just for our own safety inside the cenotes, but also to prevent us from bringing any negative energy out.

201

00:11:27,000 --> 00:11:33,000

Remember that we are in the Maya jungle and we need a lot of respect to enter this place.

202

00:11:35,000 --> 00:11:39,000

Luis introduces us to Edgar Paraza, a high-level Maya priest.

203

00:11:39,000 --> 00:11:40,000

He's a priest.

204

00:11:47,000 --> 00:11:57,000

As Edgar asked the gods on our behalf for permission to enter the sacred cenotes, the ceremonial smoke serves as a conduit to lift his words and latch them onto the surrounding environment.

205

00:11:58,000 --> 00:12:03,000

To maintain the sanctity of the cenote and the contents inside, Edgar gives us a sacred Maya drink called Balche.

206

00:12:03,000 --> 00:12:10,000

It's prepared in a bowl full of cenote water and bark from Balche trees with a splash of melapona honey mixed in.

207

00:12:10,000 --> 00:12:11,000

That's good.

208

00:12:13,000 --> 00:12:17,000

Now, on any side, you can go to the cenotes and see the sacred Maya drink.

209

00:12:17,000 --> 00:12:23,000

Once we enter the cenote well, people go in and see what they're making and who is providing blossoming fruit for all people.

210

00:12:26,000 --> 00:12:45,660

Before we begin our patrol, we savvy the Celestials telling them where the pearls were from theWingam or the

211

00:12:45,660 --> 00:12:48,660

After about a mile of off-roading following Louise's map,

212

00:12:48,660 --> 00:12:51,660

we come upon the entrance to Cenote Kishne,

213

00:12:51,660 --> 00:12:54,660

where we'll look for the source of the strange lights.

214

00:12:54,660 --> 00:12:57,660

This particular cenote is considered a sacred site

215

00:12:57,660 --> 00:13:00,660

that is still used for Maya ceremonies.

216

00:13:09,660 --> 00:13:10,660

Your chest, look above.

217

00:13:10,660 --> 00:13:12,660

Oh, my gosh.

218

00:13:12,660 --> 00:13:14,660

Oh, bats.

219

00:13:14,660 --> 00:13:16,660

Wow, tons of bats up here.

220

00:13:16,660 --> 00:13:18,660

Oh, my gosh, look at them all.

221

00:13:18,660 --> 00:13:20,660

I know bats live in caves,

222

00:13:20,660 --> 00:13:22,660

but based on what we learned from Louise,

223

00:13:22,660 --> 00:13:25,660

I'm wondering if Maya spirits are flying among these bats.

224

00:13:29,660 --> 00:13:31,660

There's a pathway over here.

225

00:13:31,660 --> 00:13:33,660

Whoa, careful.

226

00:13:33,660 --> 00:13:35,660

Oh, my gosh.

227

00:13:35,660 --> 00:13:37,660

Oh, my gosh.

228

00:13:37,660 --> 00:13:39,660

Oh, my gosh.

229

00:13:39,660 --> 00:13:41,660

Over here.

230

00:13:41,660 --> 00:13:43,660

Whoa, careful.

231

00:13:43,660 --> 00:13:46,660

There is a big drop off right here into nothing but rocks.

232

00:13:46,660 --> 00:13:49,660

Oh, yeah, that is crazy.

233

00:13:49,660 --> 00:13:51,660

Oh, my gosh.

234

00:13:51,660 --> 00:13:52,660

What?

235

00:13:52,660 --> 00:13:53,660

Look at this.

236

00:13:53,660 --> 00:13:55,660

Oh, my God.

237

00:14:03,660 --> 00:14:05,660

Look at those hand prints.

238

00:14:05,660 --> 00:14:07,660

Those have got to be Maya and...

239

00:14:07,660 --> 00:14:08,660

Absolutely.

240

00:14:09,660 --> 00:14:12,660

They're all hands on real.

241

00:14:12,660 --> 00:14:14,660

The Maya were prolific cave artists,

242

00:14:14,660 --> 00:14:17,660

and even today, you can still see evidence of their paintings

243

00:14:17,660 --> 00:14:22,660

and carvings on many cenote walls, including this one.

244

00:14:22,660 --> 00:14:24,660

Scholars speculate these hand prints,

245

00:14:24,660 --> 00:14:27,660

given their small size, were made by children

246

00:14:27,660 --> 00:14:30,660

during a coming-of-age ritual.

247

00:14:30,660 --> 00:14:34,660

Look at all those little all the way up there.

248

00:14:34,660 --> 00:14:36,660

Inside this deeply sacred cenote,

249

00:14:36,660 --> 00:14:38,660

I'm deploying my audio recorder,

250

00:14:38,660 --> 00:14:42,660

which can detect sounds on frequencies our ears can't hear.

251

00:14:42,660 --> 00:14:44,660

Obviously, don't speak Mayan,

252

00:14:44,660 --> 00:14:47,660

but some believe that spirits connect to the intent behind the message

253

00:14:47,660 --> 00:14:49,660

rather than the language spoken.

254

00:14:49,660 --> 00:14:52,660

Is anyone in here with us?

255

00:14:57,660 --> 00:15:00,660

We've heard people see strange lights in here.

256

00:15:00,660 --> 00:15:02,660

Is that you?

257

00:15:06,660 --> 00:15:09,660

I know this is a sacred place.

258

00:15:09,660 --> 00:15:12,660

Does it anger you when people come here without permission?

259

00:15:18,660 --> 00:15:20,660

I'll need to analyze my recordings later

260

00:15:20,660 --> 00:15:24,660

to see if I got any paranormal responses to my questions.

261

00:15:25,660 --> 00:15:30,660

So, like, Luis, he mentioned seeing lights in the area.

262

00:15:30,660 --> 00:15:33,660

I mean, where do you think that comes from?

263

00:15:34,660 --> 00:15:37,660

Well, caves around the world have species that have evolved

264

00:15:37,660 --> 00:15:40,660

to have bioluminescence, basically, as a lure

265

00:15:40,660 --> 00:15:43,660

to attract things to eat.

266

00:15:43,660 --> 00:15:44,660

Okay.

267

00:15:44,660 --> 00:15:48,660

Bioluminescence is the emission of light by a living organism.

268

00:15:48,660 --> 00:15:51,660

Some of the phytoplankton-rich beaches here in the Yucatan

269

00:15:51,660 --> 00:15:53,660

are famous for this phenomenon.

270

00:15:53,660 --> 00:15:56,660

Bioluminescent organisms like fireflies and fungi

271

00:15:56,660 --> 00:15:59,660

can be found in the forests of Mexico as well.

272

00:15:59,660 --> 00:16:02,660

I wonder if a combination of glowing life forms

273

00:16:02,660 --> 00:16:05,660

and environmental factors, like reflection off of water,

274

00:16:05,660 --> 00:16:09,660

can create the unusual lights people have witnessed.

275

00:16:10,660 --> 00:16:13,660

Wow, the water goes all the way around here.

276

00:16:13,660 --> 00:16:15,660

I don't see any fish.

277

00:16:15,660 --> 00:16:17,660

I don't see any either.

278

00:16:17,660 --> 00:16:20,660

And nothing glowing with bioluminescence.

279

00:16:21,660 --> 00:16:24,660

Before moving on, we set up a motion-activated trail camp

280

00:16:24,660 --> 00:16:26,660

at the entrance to this cenote,

281

00:16:26,660 --> 00:16:29,660

hoping we get a shot of the mystery lights people have seen here.

282

00:16:33,660 --> 00:16:35,660

Luis told us the second cenote

283

00:16:35,660 --> 00:16:39,660

where unusual activity has been reported is a half-mile from here.

284

00:16:39,660 --> 00:16:42,660

The sun is setting, so we need to find this hidden cenote

285

00:16:42,660 --> 00:16:45,660

before it's too dark and too dangerous to investigate.

286

00:16:47,660 --> 00:16:48,660

Wow.

287

00:16:49,660 --> 00:16:51,660

Look at that thing.

288

00:16:53,660 --> 00:16:55,660

Let's go see what's down there.

289

00:16:55,660 --> 00:16:57,660

Let's get in that thing.

290

00:16:57,660 --> 00:16:58,660

Yeah.

291

00:16:58,660 --> 00:17:01,660

This is the area where a worker says he saw strange creatures

292

00:17:01,660 --> 00:17:03,660

and he saw strange shadows.

293

00:17:03,660 --> 00:17:07,660

In the Yucatan Peninsula, there are roughly 1,800 jaguars,

294

00:17:07,660 --> 00:17:09,660

about 10% of which appear black,

295

00:17:09,660 --> 00:17:12,660

thanks to a genetic mutation called melanism.

296

00:17:12,660 --> 00:17:15,660

Jaguars are stealthy nocturnal hunters,

297

00:17:15,660 --> 00:17:17,660

and seeing a rare melanistic specimen

298

00:17:17,660 --> 00:17:20,660

could easily be misinterpreted as a shadow.

299

00:17:20,660 --> 00:17:21,660

Ooh.

300

00:17:21,660 --> 00:17:22,660

You all right?

301

00:17:22,660 --> 00:17:23,660

Yeah.

302

00:17:23,660 --> 00:17:25,660

It's kind of spongy.

303

00:17:26,660 --> 00:17:27,660

Ooh.

304

00:17:31,660 --> 00:17:32,660

Wow.

305

00:17:32,660 --> 00:17:33,660

Jessica goes back here.

306

00:17:33,660 --> 00:17:35,660

Yeah, is it safe to walk over there?

307

00:17:35,660 --> 00:17:37,660

Not to find out.

308

00:17:37,660 --> 00:17:39,660

Oh, man.

309

00:17:39,660 --> 00:17:42,660

I'm not seeing any evidence of a jaguar dead.

310

00:17:44,660 --> 00:17:45,660

Whoa.

311

00:17:45,660 --> 00:17:46,660

Check this out, Jess.

312

00:17:46,660 --> 00:17:47,660

Huh, what'd you got?

313

00:17:47,660 --> 00:17:48,660

So...

314

00:17:48,660 --> 00:17:49,660

Oh!

315

00:17:49,660 --> 00:17:50,660

Look at that.

316

00:17:50,660 --> 00:17:51,660

It's just stepped on it.

317

00:17:51,660 --> 00:17:52,660

It looks like metal.

318

00:17:52,660 --> 00:17:53,660

Yeah, yeah, it does.

319

00:17:53,660 --> 00:17:55,660

Like part of a tool.

320

00:17:55,660 --> 00:17:56,660

Kind of.

321

00:17:56,660 --> 00:17:58,660

Looks like there's a few pieces here.

322

00:17:58,660 --> 00:17:59,660

Don't tell it, you know.

323

00:17:59,660 --> 00:18:01,660

Like, you just dust it off, but take a picture of it.

324

00:18:01,660 --> 00:18:03,660

Remember, we don't want to disturb anything down here.

325

00:18:03,660 --> 00:18:04,660

Yeah.

326

00:18:04,660 --> 00:18:05,660

Yeah.

327

00:18:05,660 --> 00:18:07,660

How long does that completely dry?

328

00:18:07,660 --> 00:18:08,660

Yeah.

329

00:18:10,660 --> 00:18:11,660

Oh.

330

00:18:11,660 --> 00:18:13,660

A lot of things stinging me right now.

331

00:18:13,660 --> 00:18:14,660

Ow.

332

00:18:14,660 --> 00:18:15,660

Yeah.

333

00:18:15,660 --> 00:18:16,660

I'm getting bit, too.

334

00:18:17,660 --> 00:18:19,660

A ton of wasp nests.

335

00:18:19,660 --> 00:18:20,660

Oh.

336

00:18:23,660 --> 00:18:24,660

Oh, f\*\*\*.

337

00:18:24,660 --> 00:18:25,660

F\*\*\*.

338

00:18:25,660 --> 00:18:26,660

Whoa.

339

00:18:26,660 --> 00:18:27,660

Ow.

340

00:18:27,660 --> 00:18:28,660

I'm getting so bit.

341

00:18:28,660 --> 00:18:29,660

F\*\*\*.

342

00:18:29,660 --> 00:18:30,660

Ants catch you, too?

343

00:18:30,660 --> 00:18:31,660

Yeah.

344

00:18:31,660 --> 00:18:32,660

Oh, f\*\*\*.

345

00:18:32,660 --> 00:18:33,660

They're all over.

346

00:18:34,660 --> 00:18:35,660

I see what...

347

00:18:35,660 --> 00:18:36,660

Yeah, let's go.

348

00:18:36,660 --> 00:18:37,660

Let's go.

349

00:18:37,660 --> 00:18:38,660

Let's get out of here.

350

00:18:38,660 --> 00:18:39,660

Yep.

351

00:18:41,660 --> 00:18:43,660

We head out at first light to look for more clues,

352

00:18:43,660 --> 00:18:45,660

making our way to the third cenote,

353

00:18:45,660 --> 00:18:48,660

the one where Louise reported hearing phantom voices.

354

00:18:49,660 --> 00:18:52,660

We're told the sinkhole is so deep and dangerous,

355

00:18:52,660 --> 00:18:54,660

it's completely off limits to visitors.

356

00:18:54,660 --> 00:18:57,660

But we've been given special access to investigate

357

00:18:57,660 --> 00:19:00,660

what could be behind the unexplained sounds.

358

00:19:02,660 --> 00:19:03,660

Hey, Eduardo.

359

00:19:03,660 --> 00:19:04,660

Good to see you.

360

00:19:04,660 --> 00:19:05,660

You're welcome.

361

00:19:05,660 --> 00:19:07,660

To help us with this mission is Eduardo Castillo,

362

00:19:07,660 --> 00:19:11,660

a cave dive master and member of the Mexican Government Task Force

363

00:19:11,660 --> 00:19:14,660

that explores newly discovered cenotes in the Yucatan.

364

00:19:14,660 --> 00:19:17,660

Ten years ago, he and his team were the first ever to dive here,

365

00:19:17,660 --> 00:19:20,660

but only mapped a fraction of this massive cavern.

366

00:19:20,660 --> 00:19:25,660

We'll be the first to return and the very first TV camera crew allowed inside.

367

00:19:25,660 --> 00:19:28,660

Our plan is to explore much more of the site.

368

00:19:28,660 --> 00:19:29,660

So what's the game plan, I guess?

369

00:19:29,660 --> 00:19:30,660

How are we getting in there?

370

00:19:30,660 --> 00:19:32,660

We're gonna down by the rappel.

371

00:19:32,660 --> 00:19:36,660

We're gonna put the harness, and we're gonna down low and low.

372

00:19:38,660 --> 00:19:39,660

Wow, these birds are a lot...

373

00:19:39,660 --> 00:19:40,660

Oh, wasp.

374

00:19:40,660 --> 00:19:42,660

You know what is great right now?

375

00:19:42,660 --> 00:19:46,660

We have this fleet of swallows protecting us from all the wasps.

376

00:19:46,660 --> 00:19:48,660

Thank you, guys.

377

00:19:48,660 --> 00:19:51,660

And those birds, it's possible their sounds could be mistaken

378

00:19:51,660 --> 00:19:54,660

for the human voices people here in the cenotes.

379

00:19:54,660 --> 00:19:55,660

That goes pretty deep.

380

00:19:55,660 --> 00:19:58,660

Look at this, there's beams here, too.

381

00:19:58,660 --> 00:19:59,660

And an old ladder.

382

00:20:01,660 --> 00:20:05,660

I mean, this looks like something from Indiana Jones.

383

00:20:05,660 --> 00:20:06,660

Oh, yeah.

384

00:20:06,660 --> 00:20:10,660

I wonder if this makeshift ladder means that there's been unauthorized access.

385

00:20:10,660 --> 00:20:13,660

Maybe even looters looking for a score.

386

00:20:13,660 --> 00:20:16,660

All right, Jess, head down.

387

00:20:16,660 --> 00:20:17,660

Okay.

388

00:20:17,660 --> 00:20:18,660

Don't sound too excited.

389

00:20:18,660 --> 00:20:20,660

You gotta do this next.

390

00:20:24,660 --> 00:20:26,660

Wow, look at Steve down here.

391

00:20:31,660 --> 00:20:33,660

Jess is coming down right now.

392

00:20:35,660 --> 00:20:36,660

Oh, my God.

393

00:20:36,660 --> 00:20:37,660

This is great.

394

00:20:37,660 --> 00:20:38,660

I'm gonna go down.

395

00:20:38,660 --> 00:20:39,660

I'm gonna go down.

396

00:20:39,660 --> 00:20:40,660

I'm gonna go down.

397

00:20:40,660 --> 00:20:41,660

I'm gonna go down.

398

00:20:41,660 --> 00:20:42,660

Oh, my God.

399

00:20:42,660 --> 00:20:43,660

This is crazy.

400

00:20:50,660 --> 00:20:51,660

Okay, I'm down.

401

00:20:51,660 --> 00:20:52,660

I'm alive.

402

00:20:54,660 --> 00:20:59,660

Jess will remain topside, recording audio trying to catch the so-called phantom voices

403

00:20:59,660 --> 00:21:01,660

that people claim they've heard here.

404

00:21:01,660 --> 00:21:03,660

Okay, everybody's set?

405

00:21:03,660 --> 00:21:05,660

All right, let's do this.

406

00:21:06,660 --> 00:21:12,660

I'll explore under the water, looking for any animals or perhaps the recent remains of an animal

407

00:21:12,660 --> 00:21:15,660

that could have made the sounds people think are disembodied voices.

408

00:21:15,660 --> 00:21:20,660

Maybe it was the cave swallows we saw earlier, but I have to investigate all possibilities.

409

00:21:22,660 --> 00:21:23,660

Hola.

410

00:21:28,660 --> 00:21:32,660

Is there anyone here or around the cenote that would like to talk with us?

411

00:21:35,660 --> 00:21:42,660

This view is unreal.

412

00:21:46,660 --> 00:21:49,660

The geological formations are incredible.

413

00:21:51,660 --> 00:21:54,660

There are some really big stalactites.

414

00:21:56,660 --> 00:21:59,660

It's like another world down here.

415

00:21:59,660 --> 00:22:01,660

It's like another world down here.

416

00:22:09,660 --> 00:22:12,660

Have people come in here without getting permission?

417

00:22:14,660 --> 00:22:15,660

Did that anger you?

418

00:22:18,660 --> 00:22:21,660

Has anyone disturbed your sacred artifacts?

419

00:22:23,660 --> 00:22:25,660

Jess, I think I got something down here.

420

00:22:29,660 --> 00:22:31,660

Bill, what'd you find?

421

00:22:32,660 --> 00:22:34,660

We got some boons down here.

422

00:22:43,660 --> 00:22:45,660

We got some boons down here.

423

00:22:46,660 --> 00:22:48,660

What kind of boons are they?

424

00:22:49,660 --> 00:22:52,660

Possibly human, but more likely animal.

425

00:22:53,660 --> 00:22:56,660

Looks like they've been here for a very, very long time.

426

00:22:56,660 --> 00:22:58,660

Could be ancient, the way they're discolored.

427

00:22:59,660 --> 00:23:03,660

If it's from a sacrifice, that could explain why Louise heard voices of spirits.

428

00:23:04,660 --> 00:23:08,660

The collagen and minerals and bones can keep them relatively intact for hundreds,

429

00:23:08,660 --> 00:23:13,660

even thousands of years in fresh water, depending on its temperature and pH level.

430

00:23:14,660 --> 00:23:20,660

As much as I'd like to further study these remains, we are not permitted to remove anything from the cenotes.

431

00:23:21,660 --> 00:23:24,660

Alright Jess, we're getting low on air. We're coming up.

432

00:23:24,660 --> 00:23:26,660

Okay, come on up.

433

00:23:33,660 --> 00:23:35,660

Pop off your helmet, tell me what happens.

434

00:23:35,660 --> 00:23:37,660

There's part of this that just goes deep.

435

00:23:38,660 --> 00:23:44,660

It just kept on going, darker and darker, but when the rays of sun were coming through, it looked like we were in heaven.

436

00:23:45,660 --> 00:23:47,660

Really? Super cool.

437

00:23:47,660 --> 00:23:50,660

Alright. Let's get out of here, up into that really hot Mexican sun.

438

00:23:55,660 --> 00:24:00,660

We've now investigated three very different cenotes and discovered some curious clues inside them.

439

00:24:00,660 --> 00:24:05,660

But I'm not sure if the metal pieces and bones are in any way linked to the reports of supernatural activity.

440

00:24:05,660 --> 00:24:09,660

So we've sent our photos to Josh to see if he can help us find answers.

441

00:24:13,660 --> 00:24:15,660

Hey guys. Hey Josh.

442

00:24:15,660 --> 00:24:18,660

How are things in the Yucatan? See or hear any angry spirits yet?

443

00:24:19,660 --> 00:24:21,660

Not yet, but I feel like we're getting close.

444

00:24:21,660 --> 00:24:30,660

I still think there are natural explanations for what's going on and I'll keep pursuing that, but in the meantime, did you get a chance to look at those images we sent to the bones and metal?

445

00:24:30,660 --> 00:24:39,660

I'm opening those now. Okay, little hard to tell what the bone is from. They look old, but well preserved.

446

00:24:39,660 --> 00:24:44,660

Phil, what are you thinking? Human or animal? Do you think this was part of a Maya ritual or sacrifice?

447

00:24:44,660 --> 00:24:50,660

I'd say the bones are probably animal, but obviously we couldn't remove anything from the cenote for analysis.

448

00:24:50,660 --> 00:24:56,660

And what about these metal pieces? They look old, but I wouldn't say they look ancient.

449

00:24:56,660 --> 00:25:03,660

This metal looked like it was part of a tool. Definitely not Maya history, but what history it is, I'm not sure.

450

00:25:03,660 --> 00:25:05,660

I wonder if it was something dropped by a looter.

451

00:25:05,660 --> 00:25:13,660

It might be helpful to get an archaeologist take on all of this, not just an expert on the Maya, but someone who really knows the whole history of this region.

452

00:25:13,660 --> 00:25:19,660

I have some really good contacts down there. I have someone in mind who might be able to help you connect the dots.

453

00:25:19,660 --> 00:25:24,660

Let me make a call. That would be fantastic. All right, see you guys. Bye, Josh.

454

00:25:27,660 --> 00:25:36,660

I'm connecting Phil and Jess with Arturo Perez, a local archaeologist who's been researching the cultures of the Yucatan Peninsula for over a decade.

455

00:25:36,660 --> 00:25:42,660

Hello, how are you? Arturo. Nice to meet you. I'm Phil. Jessica. Nice to meet you.

456

00:25:42,660 --> 00:25:46,660

Nice to meet you. So we have a photo we'd like to show you.

457

00:25:46,660 --> 00:25:48,660

Sure.

458

00:25:48,660 --> 00:25:57,660

The first thing we show Arturo is an image of a bone I spotted during the cenote dive. Jess wants to know if this means there were sacrifices in that cenote.

459

00:25:57,660 --> 00:25:58,660

I don't think so.

460

00:25:58,660 --> 00:26:07,660

We don't know for sure. Since you were the first scientist to explore some parts of the cenote, we have a lot of work to do to better understand the site.

461

00:26:07,660 --> 00:26:14,660

Next we show Arturo photos of the metal we found in the dry cenote and ask if it could be Maya.

462

00:26:14,660 --> 00:26:21,660

No, it's not Maya. These are pieces of metal. The Maya did not use metal like this.

463

00:26:21,660 --> 00:26:29,660

This looks like metal used in equipment for farming and transport of hennican crops about 120 years

ago.

464

00:26:29,660 --> 00:26:43,660

Between the late 1800s and early 1900s, the Yucatan becomes the center of a major business boom, growing and harvesting a fibrous native plant called hennequin that's used to make ropes, bags and shoes.

465

00:26:43,660 --> 00:26:50,660

To keep up with demand, hennequin plantations or haciendas spread across the region.

466

00:26:50,660 --> 00:27:06,660

But this boom also has a dark side. Wealthy hacienda owners force the local Maya into indentured servitude and their sacred cenotes are depleted for irrigation water and used as dumps, causing some of them to completely dry up.

467

00:27:09,660 --> 00:27:16,660

There was very bad exploitation and a lot of suffering for the Maya community that was forced to work at the hennequin haciendas.

468

00:27:17,660 --> 00:27:23,660

He just said it was really, really bad the way that people were exploited here.

469

00:27:23,660 --> 00:27:28,660

Well, hearing that now makes me wonder if we should be looking into the hacienda.

470

00:27:30,660 --> 00:27:36,660

The cenotes we've been investigating surround one of the former hennequin plantations, hacienda campepin.

471

00:27:37,660 --> 00:27:43,660

Our focus has been on the cenotes, but I wonder if spirits linger in the hacienda too, angered over the mistreatment of the Maya.

472

00:27:43,660 --> 00:27:56,660

The spirits' presence could explain the strange lights, shadows and other unusual phenomena that witnesses have said often occur in this area after dark.

473

00:28:07,660 --> 00:28:11,920

The

474

00:28:14,660 --> 00:28:15,660

All right.

475

00:28:18,660 --> 00:28:19,660

Whew. Very creepy.

476

00:28:20,660 --> 00:28:21,660

Yeah, you can say that.

477

00:28:24,660 --> 00:28:26,660

This place is falling apart.

478

00:28:26,660 --> 00:28:27,660

...

479

00:28:27,660 --> 00:28:28,660

...

480

00:28:28,660 --> 00:28:29,660

...

481

00:28:29,660 --> 00:28:30,660

...

482

00:28:30,660 --> 00:28:31,660

...

483

00:28:31,660 --> 00:28:32,660

...

484

00:28:32,660 --> 00:28:33,660

...

485

00:28:33,660 --> 00:28:34,660

...

486

00:28:34,660 --> 00:28:35,660

...

487

00:28:35,660 --> 00:28:36,660

Whoa!

488

00:28:36,660 --> 00:28:37,660

What is this?

489

00:28:37,660 --> 00:28:38,660

Look!

490

00:28:38,660 --> 00:28:39,660

Oh!

491

00:28:39,660 --> 00:28:40,660

You know what?

492

00:28:40,660 --> 00:28:41,660

I'll take this as the etiquette.

493

00:28:41,660 --> 00:28:44,660

Oh, and they would drag it through here to kind of untangle it, weave it?

494

00:28:44,660 --> 00:28:46,660

I wonder if this is how they would weave it.

495

00:28:46,660 --> 00:28:48,660

Slave's probably used this very tool.

496

00:28:48,660 --> 00:28:49,660

Mm-hmm.

497

00:28:49,660 --> 00:28:50,660

Yeah.

498

00:28:50,660 --> 00:28:51,660

...

499

00:28:51,660 --> 00:28:52,660

...

500

00:28:52,660 --> 00:28:53,660

...

501

00:28:53,660 --> 00:28:54,660

...

502

00:28:54,660 --> 00:28:56,660

Did you hear that?

503

00:29:00,660 --> 00:29:01,660

Hello?

504

00:29:07,660 --> 00:29:09,660

Oh, f\*\*\*!

505

00:29:10,660 --> 00:29:11,660

Something just hit my back.

506

00:29:11,660 --> 00:29:13,660

What? Hit you?

507

00:29:13,660 --> 00:29:15,660

Yeah, something just hit my back.

508

00:29:15,660 --> 00:29:17,660

This thing just fell.

509

00:29:17,660 --> 00:29:18,660

What?

510

00:29:18,660 --> 00:29:20,660

That just fell.

511

00:29:20,660 --> 00:29:22,660

I heard something rock fall.

512

00:29:22,660 --> 00:29:25,660

Fall from here, and then land to there.

513

00:29:25,660 --> 00:29:27,660

You didn't see anything?

514

00:29:27,660 --> 00:29:28,660

Nothing.

515

00:29:28,660 --> 00:29:30,660

That is so weird.

516

00:29:32,660 --> 00:29:38,660

This old structure doesn't exactly look up to code, so it could literally be crumbling around us.

517

00:29:39,660 --> 00:29:46,660

Louise, the property manager, told us that he too has experienced stones thrown at him while walking along trails in this vicinity.

518

00:29:46,660 --> 00:29:48,660

...

519

00:29:51,660 --> 00:29:52,660

Ooh, look right here.

520

00:29:52,660 --> 00:29:53,660

What?

521

00:29:53,660 --> 00:29:54,660

There's a well.

522

00:29:54,660 --> 00:29:56,660

Does that lead down to a cenote?

523

00:29:57,660 --> 00:29:59,660

It's got water.

524

00:29:59,660 --> 00:30:01,660

That's wild.

525

00:30:02,660 --> 00:30:07,660

This is the only source of water for this entire, like, building part of the asian village, this well.

526

00:30:07,660 --> 00:30:10,660

So this is probably part of a cenote, then?

527

00:30:10,660 --> 00:30:11,660

Easily.

528

00:30:11,660 --> 00:30:13,660

I bet you underneath a lot of this.

529

00:30:13,660 --> 00:30:14,660

Oh, f\*\*\*, what?

530

00:30:14,660 --> 00:30:16,660

There's something in the well!

531

00:30:22,660 --> 00:30:27,660

This is the only source of water for this entire, like, building part of the asian village, this well.

532

00:30:27,660 --> 00:30:30,660

So this is probably part of a cenote, then?

533

00:30:30,660 --> 00:30:31,660

Easily.

534

00:30:31,660 --> 00:30:33,660

I bet you underneath a lot of this.

535

00:30:33,660 --> 00:30:35,660

Oh, f\*\*\*, what?

536

00:30:35,660 --> 00:30:37,660

There's something in the well!

537

00:30:39,660 --> 00:30:40,660

What do you mean?

538

00:30:40,660 --> 00:30:42,660

No, there is something in the well!

539

00:30:42,660 --> 00:30:43,660

Like a fish?

540

00:30:43,660 --> 00:30:44,660

No!

541

00:30:44,660 --> 00:30:45,660

I just saw a bat.

542

00:30:45,660 --> 00:30:47,660

Yes, a bat just flew by.

543

00:30:47,660 --> 00:30:49,660

Oh, yeah, there's the bat.

544

00:30:49,660 --> 00:30:51,660

Alright, let me get in here.

545

00:30:56,660 --> 00:30:59,660

Listen, boils down to, I did not know this well was here.

546

00:31:01,660 --> 00:31:03,660

Do I know who's that you?

547

00:31:03,660 --> 00:31:04,660

Oh, he's right here.

548

00:31:04,660 --> 00:31:05,660

Oh! What?

549

00:31:05,660 --> 00:31:06,660

F\*\*\*, yes.

550

00:31:06,660 --> 00:31:08,660

There's something in the well!

551

00:31:08,660 --> 00:31:10,660

What is happening here?

552

00:31:10,660 --> 00:31:11,660

Something just touched me again!

553

00:31:11,660 --> 00:31:13,660

What is happening with you guys?

554

00:31:13,660 --> 00:31:14,660

Oh my God!

555

00:31:14,660 --> 00:31:15,660

Are you going insane?

556

00:31:15,660 --> 00:31:16,660

No!

557

00:31:17,660 --> 00:31:18,660

Are you okay?

558

00:31:18,660 --> 00:31:19,660

No, I don't think so.

559

00:31:19,660 --> 00:31:20,660

Is there anything on my back?

560

00:31:21,660 --> 00:31:22,660

No.

561

00:31:23,660 --> 00:31:24,660

Okay.

562

00:31:33,660 --> 00:31:35,660

Jess, check this out.

563

00:31:35,660 --> 00:31:36,660

Dry pit.

564

00:31:36,660 --> 00:31:37,660

Holy crap.

565

00:31:37,660 --> 00:31:40,660

I think it's just a matter of time before this sinks.

566

00:31:40,660 --> 00:31:41,660

All of it sinks in.

567

00:31:41,660 --> 00:31:44,660

This place hasn't been in operation for years.

568

00:31:44,660 --> 00:31:47,660

But the sunken earth and the water inside the well

569

00:31:47,660 --> 00:31:51,660

suggest that this hacienda might have been built on top of a cenote.

570

00:31:51,660 --> 00:31:54,660

That kind of reckless desecration of the sacred soil here

571

00:31:54,660 --> 00:31:59,660

could explain all the supernatural disturbances people have reported in this area.

572

00:32:05,660 --> 00:32:06,660

Who's out there?

573

00:32:07,660 --> 00:32:08,660

Jess.

574

00:32:08,660 --> 00:32:09,660

Oh my God!

575

00:32:09,660 --> 00:32:10,660

Really?

576

00:32:10,660 --> 00:32:11,660

What is with you?

577

00:32:11,660 --> 00:32:12,660

Somebody just walked by here!

578

00:32:12,660 --> 00:32:14,660

Brian, I thought it was you again!

579

00:32:14,660 --> 00:32:15,660

What the f\*\*\*?

580

00:32:16,660 --> 00:32:17,660

What are you seeing?

581

00:32:18,660 --> 00:32:19,660

Did you just walk around here?

582

00:32:19,660 --> 00:32:21,660

No, I've been right there shooting at him.

583

00:32:22,660 --> 00:32:26,660

I just saw you walk past here.

584

00:32:26,660 --> 00:32:27,660

You saw something walk this way?

585

00:32:27,660 --> 00:32:30,660

I saw Brian walk past here.

586

00:32:30,660 --> 00:32:34,660

So Jess, you're seeing a lot of things right now.

587

00:32:34,660 --> 00:32:36,660

That's a lot of things.

588

00:32:36,660 --> 00:32:37,660

That is a...

589

00:32:37,660 --> 00:32:40,660

I saw Brian walk by.

590

00:32:40,660 --> 00:32:41,660

What do you mean by Brian?

591

00:32:41,660 --> 00:32:44,660

Like, did you literally see him with the gear or someone wearing black?

592

00:32:44,660 --> 00:32:48,660

I saw him with his hat wearing black, same size, same stride,

593

00:32:48,660 --> 00:32:52,660

walking past us outside.

594

00:32:52,660 --> 00:32:54,660

Is that just your imagination?

595

00:32:55,660 --> 00:32:56,660

I don't know.

596

00:32:56,660 --> 00:32:57,660

I don't know.

597

00:32:59,660 --> 00:33:01,660

I just saw something moving back there.

598

00:33:01,660 --> 00:33:03,660

Again, someone in white moving back there.

599

00:33:03,660 --> 00:33:05,660

Oh, I'm sorry Phil.

600

00:33:05,660 --> 00:33:08,660

Yes, maybe it's just your imagination.

601

00:33:08,660 --> 00:33:10,660

It probably is.

602

00:33:10,660 --> 00:33:12,660

That's the thing about this place.

603

00:33:12,660 --> 00:33:16,660

I've seen things too, out of the corner of my eye, that look like a figure.

604

00:33:16,660 --> 00:33:20,660

But I still just think the brain will put patterns where it wants to put patterns.

605

00:33:20,660 --> 00:33:23,660

Why would I pattern Brian walking?

606

00:33:23,660 --> 00:33:25,660

Because it's something familiar.

607

00:33:25,660 --> 00:33:31,660

If you see something dark standing there or a shadow, your brain can fill in the blanks.

608

00:33:31,660 --> 00:33:33,660

What hit me in the back then?

609

00:33:33,660 --> 00:33:34,660

No idea.

610

00:33:34,660 --> 00:33:37,660

But I do want to try to check everything off the list.

611

00:33:37,660 --> 00:33:40,660

And one of those things for me, especially in a place like this,

612

00:33:40,660 --> 00:33:43,660

is going to be, well, wildlife's living around here.

613

00:33:43,660 --> 00:33:47,660

What other factors in the surrounding grounds could be contributing to us seeing something?

614

00:33:47,660 --> 00:33:48,660

I don't know.

615

00:33:48,660 --> 00:33:53,660

So that's why I want to just be able to eliminate whatever factors we can.

616

00:33:53,660 --> 00:33:55,660

I'm going to venture out and do a sweep of the area.

617

00:33:55,660 --> 00:33:59,660

There are a lot of nocturnal animals out here that can startle at night,

618

00:33:59,660 --> 00:34:04,660

including both spotted and black jaguars, and about 50 species of bats.

619

00:34:06,660 --> 00:34:10,660

Right now, the biggest thing I'm looking for is eye shine.

620

00:34:10,660 --> 00:34:15,660

Pretty much any mammal that's active at night, especially in an environment like this,

621

00:34:15,660 --> 00:34:20,660

it's going to have a really good night vision, meaning they're going to have really bright open eyes.

622

00:34:20,660 --> 00:34:25,660

And if you shine a light right at them, it's going to bounce right back at you.

623

00:34:30,660 --> 00:34:33,660

While Phil patrols the perimeter, I stay back with Brian.

624

00:34:33,660 --> 00:34:37,660

We'll attempt to draw out and capture evidence of whatever was trying to get my attention.

625

00:34:37,660 --> 00:34:41,660

Maybe it's somehow connected to the apparitions people see around the property.

626

00:34:41,660 --> 00:34:47,660

I break out the audio recorder, as well as our structured light sensor, or SLS camera.

627

00:34:47,660 --> 00:34:51,660

This unique piece of tech uses special software and an infrared light projector

628

00:34:51,660 --> 00:34:55,660

to detect paranormal entities by recognizing a body's joint movements.

629

00:34:55,660 --> 00:35:00,660

If a spirit appears in front of the SLS, it'll show up as a stick figure.

630

00:35:01,660 --> 00:35:05,660

Hi, my name's Jessica. What's your name?

631

00:35:09,660 --> 00:35:12,660

Did you live here at the Hacienda?

632

00:35:12,660 --> 00:35:25,660

I see a little person back to you. Thank God.

633

00:35:32,660 --> 00:35:37,660

Jess might not be the only one who believes stealing artifacts can attract bad energy.

634

00:35:37,660 --> 00:35:43,660

In 2015, an anonymous person returned a pair of 2,000-year-old slingshot stones,

635

00:35:43,660 --> 00:35:47,660

snatched 20 years prior from the historic site of Gamla.

636

00:35:47,660 --> 00:35:51,660

Israeli authorities also found a note from the remorseful robber that read,

637

00:35:51,660 --> 00:35:56,660

quote, they have caused me nothing but trouble, please do not steal antiquities.

638

00:35:56,660 --> 00:36:02,660

And in 2020, a Canadian tourist made headlines after returning artifacts she swiped

639

00:36:02,660 --> 00:36:05,660

while visiting the ruins of Pompeii in Italy,

640

00:36:05,660 --> 00:36:10,660

asking for, quote, forgiveness from the gods, claiming that the illicit souvenirs

641

00:36:10,660 --> 00:36:13,660

brought about health issues and financial problems.

642

00:36:13,660 --> 00:36:18,660

Though relieved, Italian officials weren't exactly surprised to see the items sent back.

643

00:36:18,660 --> 00:36:23,660

That's because there's an entire museum at Pompeii dedicated to a growing collection

644

00:36:23,660 --> 00:36:25,660

of once-stolen artifacts.

645

00:36:25,660 --> 00:36:28,660

Note to self, return that creepy golden idol.

646

00:36:35,660 --> 00:36:37,660

A little person next to you.

647

00:36:40,660 --> 00:36:42,660

Slightly behind me.

648

00:36:42,660 --> 00:36:44,660

Slightly. Ah, yeah, kneeling.

649

00:36:44,660 --> 00:36:45,660

Yup.

650

00:36:47,660 --> 00:36:49,660

About the same height?

651

00:36:49,660 --> 00:36:51,660

No, but smaller.

652

00:36:51,660 --> 00:36:52,660

Smaller?

653

00:36:52,660 --> 00:36:53,660

Very small.

654

00:36:56,660 --> 00:36:58,660

Are you a child?

655

00:37:05,660 --> 00:37:08,660

As I get deeper into the woods, I break out the thermal camera.

656

00:37:08,660 --> 00:37:13,660

Detecting heat signatures is the best way to see any wildlife in the dark.

657

00:37:14,660 --> 00:37:17,660

A lot of bats are flying around us right now.

658

00:37:18,660 --> 00:37:20,660

Oh, one just flew right over there.

659

00:37:20,660 --> 00:37:22,660

Oh, yeah, look at that.

660

00:37:25,660 --> 00:37:27,660

Yeah, it tries to, oh, yeah, look at those bats.

661

00:37:27,660 --> 00:37:29,660

Look at all those guys flying.

662

00:37:30,660 --> 00:37:32,660

Tons of them.

663

00:37:36,660 --> 00:37:38,660

Getting something pretty warm over here.

664

00:37:39,660 --> 00:37:41,660

What is it?

665

00:37:43,660 --> 00:37:44,660

Check this out.

666

00:37:44,660 --> 00:37:46,660

Right back there, right back there.

667

00:37:52,660 --> 00:37:57,660

And this is also the ground that there could easily be holes leading into a snow day.

668

00:37:58,660 --> 00:38:00,660

But it's a really warm spot.

669

00:38:01,660 --> 00:38:05,660

What's crazy is I've also seen a lot of bats flying around it.

670

00:38:06,660 --> 00:38:09,660

Just like bats are flying around us right now.

671

00:38:09,660 --> 00:38:14,660

So there's a good chance that there's a bigger mammal back there.

672

00:38:14,660 --> 00:38:21,660

And the bats know that that mammal's attracting mosquitoes, so they're flying in to eat it.

673

00:38:21,660 --> 00:38:24,660

I just can't tell what it is. I'm not getting any eyeshine.

674

00:38:26,660 --> 00:38:29,660

Have to be careful in case it's a jaguar.

675

00:38:31,660 --> 00:38:34,660

Is that you following us around the Hacienda?

676

00:38:43,660 --> 00:38:44,660

Did you...

677

00:38:44,660 --> 00:38:46,660

It's reaching up to you.

678

00:38:47,660 --> 00:38:49,660

Did you used to work at the Hacienda?

679

00:38:54,660 --> 00:38:56,660

What's your name?

680

00:39:01,660 --> 00:39:05,660

It just...it like... shrunk up and like went into your chest.

681

00:39:06,660 --> 00:39:07,660

That's weird.

682

00:39:07,660 --> 00:39:09,660

I know. It's gone.

683

00:39:10,660 --> 00:39:12,660

Did you want to speak to us anymore?

684

00:39:12,660 --> 00:39:19,660

For over three millennia, the sacred cenotes of southern Mexico have been said to harbor supernatural forces.

685

00:39:19,660 --> 00:39:25,660

My team set out to investigate what's behind the increasing reports of unexplained activity.

686

00:39:25,660 --> 00:39:32,660

Jess analyzed more than 20,000 of the most recent and most recent events in the world.

687

00:39:32,660 --> 00:39:36,660

And she also analyzed the most recent events in the world.

688

00:39:36,660 --> 00:39:41,660

And she also analyzed the most recent events behind the increasing reports of unexplained activity.

689

00:39:41,660 --> 00:39:48,660

Jess analyzed more than 25 hours of her audio recordings, which yielded no voices like the ones reported.

690

00:39:48,660 --> 00:39:53,660

But images from the trail cam Phil left out were, in a word, enlightening.

691

00:39:53,660 --> 00:39:59,660

While Phil didn't find bioluminescent fungus in the cenotes, he suspects these fireflies,

692

00:39:59,660 --> 00:40:05,660

combined with the Yucatan's heavy humidity, could have created the ghostly glow people have reported.

693

00:40:07,660 --> 00:40:10,660

So we'll put that explanation in the plausible column.

694

00:40:11,660 --> 00:40:14,660

Jess believes the sudden insect attack...

695

00:40:14,660 --> 00:40:15,660

Ants catch you too?

696

00:40:15,660 --> 00:40:16,660

Yep! Oh, f\*\*\*!

697

00:40:16,660 --> 00:40:17,660

They're all over!

698

00:40:18,660 --> 00:40:22,660

...was a stinging warning from the cenotes spirits when Phil picked up an artifact.

699

00:40:22,660 --> 00:40:23,660

Don't tell it, you know.

700

00:40:23,660 --> 00:40:25,660

We don't want to disturb anything down here.

701

00:40:26,660 --> 00:40:31,660

And when that mystery metal led them to a historic site where the Maya were gravely mistreated...

702

00:40:31,660 --> 00:40:34,660

Slaves probably used this very tool.

703

00:40:35,660 --> 00:40:37,660

Jess knew to pivot their investigation.

704

00:40:41,660 --> 00:40:45,660

Her resulting research turned up a lesser-known part of Maya mythology.

705

00:40:45,660 --> 00:40:47,660

Something called the Alush.

706

00:40:47,660 --> 00:40:52,660

A race of three-foot-high, mischievous beings similar to elves,

707

00:40:52,660 --> 00:40:55,660

tasked with protecting the Yucatan jungle.

708

00:40:55,660 --> 00:40:57,660

The Alush's signature move?

709

00:40:57,660 --> 00:40:59,660

Slinging stones at humans.

710

00:41:00,660 --> 00:41:01,660

F\*\*\*! Something just hit my back.

711

00:41:01,660 --> 00:41:03,660

So what does it all mean?

712

00:41:03,660 --> 00:41:08,660

Well, whether you're a skeptic or a believer, one big takeaway from all our expeditions

713

00:41:08,660 --> 00:41:13,660

should be the importance of being respectful of local customs, land, and people.

714

00:41:13,660 --> 00:41:17,660

You never know who or what might be looking out for them.

715

00:41:22,660 --> 00:41:29,660

For more information on Expedition X, head to [discovery.com](http://discovery.com).